the company, the Steel Authority of India had decided to shut down blast furnaces at Bokaro and Bhilai.

श्री राघवजी: मेरा जवाब नहीं आया। मध्य प्रदेश के तमाम कारखाने बंद पड़े हुए हैं या नहीं, यह तो मंत्री जी बताएं। **(व्यवधान)** मंत्री जी का जवाब तो पूरा होने दीजिये **(व्यवधान)** जवाब नहीं आया **(व्यवधान)**

श्री संजय निरुपम: मंत्री जी का जवाब नहीं आया **(व्यवधान)**

SHRI R.K. KUMAR : He has not replied about the impact of imports.

श्री वेद प्रकाश पी० गोयल: सर, मैं स्टील इंडस्ट्री से आता हूं। मंत्री महोदय ने कहा है कि यह एनुअल शट-डाऊन है, यह रिपेयर हो रही है। बाद में उन्होंने क्लेरीफाई किया है, एडमिट किया है कि वास्तविक कारण अलग है। उसको पहले छिपाया गया। आज दो सौ मिनि स्टील प्लांट बंद पड़े हुए हैं। मैं यह जानना चाहता हूं कि इन सारे स्टील प्लांट्स को रिपेअर के लिए बंद करने के बजाय क्या इनके अपग्रेडेशन करने की कोई प्लान है ताकि आगे चल कर प्रोडक्शन बढ़ सके?

SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA: Sir, I would like to clarify that I am not misleading the House. From the very beginning, I have given a categorical answer that in the better technological and commercial interest of the company, blast furnaces at Bokaro and Bhilai have been shut down. I am not misleading the House, Sir. I have given an appropriate and correct information.

SHRI VEDPRAKASH P. GOYAL: Would the Minister like to tell us about the upgradation which is going on in these plants?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

Export of Rice by FCI

*21. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether Food Corporation of India (FCI) exported rice in 1995-96 and 1996-97;

(b) if so, the quantum of rice exported by FCI in above mentioned two years;

(c) the quantum of rice to be exported by FCI in 1997-98; and

(d) the full details of such projections.

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV): (a) and (b) The FCI has not directly exported rice in 1995-96 and 1996-97. However, against the authorisation given by the Government for export sale for the purpose of export upto 30 lakh tonnes of fine and superfine rice in 1995-96, and upto 5 lakh tonnes in 1996-97, FCI sold for the purpose of export to exporters, both in the Private and Public Sectors, a quantity of 14.90 lakh tonnes in 1995-96 and 0.52 lakh tonnes in 1996-97 so far.

(c) As of now there is no proposal for export or for sale for purpose of export of rice by FCI in 1997-98.

(d) Does not arise.

Recommendations of Abid Hussain Committee on small enterprises

*23. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
SHRI RAM GOPAL YADAV:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received the report of Abid Hussain Committee;